

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the "Related Application" section with the following amended Related Applications section:

"The present application relates to co-pending U.S. patent application Ser. No.           10/730520, filed November 14, 2003, and entitled OPTIMIZED PUSH-TO-TALK CALL SETUP, of concurrent ownership, ~~filed concurrently herewith, and~~ which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. "

Please replace paragraph [30] (as filed) with the following amended paragraph:

"Once the handset 30 responds with the AACK message, the base station 50 forwards the AACK message to the PTT server 80 via the WWAN. Next the PTT server 80 sends a CONNECTION STATUS message 110 ("STATUS") to the requesting handset 20 30-via the base station 40. At the base station 40, the STATUS message 110 is sent over the air to the handset 20 30-in the FCCCH channel. Advantageously, sending the STATUS message 110 to the handset 20 30 in the FCCCH channel avoids any delay that may be caused by waiting for the traffic channel to be established and then sending the STATUS message 110 the handset 20 30-in the traffic channel."

Please replace paragraph [31] (as filed) with the following amended paragraph:

"At the requesting handset 20, once the STATUS message 110 is received, the handset 20 opens up its audio channel and begins to process voice data received from the caller (i.e., the user of handset 20). Advantageously, the processed voice data can be buffered on the handset 20 until the traffic channel is established. Once the traffic channel is established, the buffered audio can be sent to handset 30 ~~20~~ over the wireless communication network in the traffic channel, and the PTT call may proceed."

Please replace paragraph [33] (as filed) with the following amended paragraph:

"In an embodiment where handset 25 requests a PTT call, the handset 25 sends the CALL message to the base station 170 in the FCCCH channel and also receives the STATUS message from the base station 170 is-sent to the handset 25 in the FCCCH channel."